

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LENDING 02078 281432Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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R 281419Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4555

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PDIP, UR, US, SOPN
SUBJECT: ACCESS TO CONSULATE

REF: LENINGRAD 2067 (NOTAL), MOSCOW 17578 (NOTAL)

1. IN COURSE OF MEETING WITH DIPLOMATIC AGENCY HEAD YEFIMOV ON JULY 28 TO INTRODUCE NEW DPO, WE EXPRESSED MUTUAL WISH TO AVOID SEEING LARGER GLOBAL CONTROVERSIES SPILL OVER ON OUR LOCAL RELATIONS. I USED OCCASION TO RAISE IN LOW KEY ISSUE OF ACCESS TO CONSULATE, POINTING OUT THAT I HAD NO SERIOUS COMPLAINT WITH CONDUCT OF MILITIAMEN, WHO HAD BEEN GENERALLY QUITE CORRECT. BUT I COMMENTED THAT, GIVEN SERIOUS INCIDENTS IN MOSCOW (ABOUT WHICH HE CLAIMED IGNORANCE) AND RECENT TENDENCY FOR MILITIA TO BE MORE OBTRUSIVE IN DEMANDING DOCUMENTS OF AMERICANS ENTERING CONSULATE, I THOUGHT THAT HE SHOULD BE FULLY AWARE OF HOW US GOVERNMENT LOOKS AT QUESTION OF ENTRY TO CONSULATE AND WHAT INSTRUCTIONS I HAD GIVEN TO AMERICANS ON THIS ISSUE. HE WAS SHOWN TRANSLATION OF DEPT PRESS STATEMENT ON OCCASION OF SMITH INCIDENT AND DID NOT CHALLENGE STATEMENT THAT AMERICANS SHOULD HAVE UNINHIBITED ACCESS TO CONSULATE, AND HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED

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THEY DID NOT NEED TO SHOW DOCUMENTS. NEW AIDE KOZLOVSKIY MADE WEAK ATTEMPT TO RATIONALIZE MILITIA BEHAVIOR ON USUAL GROUNDS OF PROVIDING "PROTECTION," NOTING THAT EVEN AMERICAN CONSULAR OFFICER HAD BEEN TAKEN IN BY SOVIET MASQUERADING AS AMERICAN WHO TRIED TO ENTER CONSULATE AND PROVED TO BE "MINOR CROOK." YEFIMOV WAS TOLD THAT CONSULAR ESTABLISHMENTS AROUND WORLD WERE ACCUSTOMED TO

DEALING WITH ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE, AND FUNCTION OF MARINES IS TO PROVIDE PROTECTION TO STAFF. WE ARE MORE CONCERNED, THEREFORE, OVER ISSUE OF RESTRICTED ACCESS, AND IN THIS CONNECTION, I NOTED THAT MARINES HAD BEEN ADVISED TO BE ALERT TO ANY TRANSGRESSIONS ON DIPLOMATIC PROPERTY. REITERATING THAT I WAS NOT MAKING COMPLAINT OVER MILITIA BEHAVIOR, I NOTED THAT I HAD HAD TO CAUTION MILITIA TO STAND AWAY FROM FRONT DOOR. YEFIMOV THEN SAID THAT HE WOULD DISCUSS THIS GENERAL QUESTION OF POSTURE AS IT APPLIED ACROSS THE BOARD TO ALL CONSULATES GENERAL, TO ENSURE THAT MILITIA ATTITUDE WAS PROPERLY POLITE. WE SHALL SEE.

2. I USED OCCASION OF VISIT ALSO TO HAND YEFIMOV "NON-PAPER" ON MATTER OF HIS AGENCY'S PROLONGED REFUSAL TO ISSUE IDENTIFICATION CARD TO OUR NEW CONSULAR OFFICER PENDING THE RETURN OF PREDECESSOR'S I.D. CARD. INITIALLY, ISSUANCE WAS HELD UP BECAUSE CARDS OF THREE DEPARTING OFFICERS HAD NOT BEEN RETURNED. TWO WEEKS LATER WHEN ALL I.D.'S EXCEPT THAT OF MR. CLYATT HAD BEEN RETURNED, AND DIPLOMATIC AGENCY HAD BEEN TOLD THAT WE HAD CABLED CLYATT TO SEND HIS CARD PROMPTLY, AGENCY STILL REFUSED TO ISSUE FOLEY HIS I.D. NON-PAPER POINTED OUT THAT BEHAVIOR WAS "INCONSISTENT WITH MATURE AND COOPERATIVE WORKING RELATIONS," AS WELL AS WITH TERMS OF ARTICLE 2, SECTION 6 OF CONSULAR CONVENTION. YEFIMOV EXPLAINED THAT CARDS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WERE ISSUED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY IN MOSCOW, HE IMPLIED IN EXCHANGE FOR CARDS OF DEPARTING OFFICER, BUT AGREED TO ISSUE CARD TO FOLEY.

3. TO OUR SURPRISE, YEFIMOV DID NOT RAISE ANY ISSUES, INCLUDING DEMONSTRATIONS IN SAN FRANCISCO. WHICH MAY SIMPLY MEAN THAT MID HAS NOT YET DECIDED HOW TO REACT. BUCHANAN

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Draft Date: 28 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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